

The Ellis D. Parker Award

1. Purpose. To set forth the guidelines and rules for the LTG Ellis D. Parker Top Aviation Unit of the Year Competition for FY06.

2. Background. Army Chief of Staff, GEN Gordon R. Sullivan, approved the LTG Ellis D. Parker Award on 29 January 1993 to honor the Army's top aviation battalion during LTG Parker's retirement ceremony. The Parker Award, a DA level award, recognizes excellence at the battalion level, the primary war fighting Army Aviation force and is divided into four categories: Combat, Combat Support, Combat Service Support and TDA.

3. Participation. Aviation and Aviation Maintenance Battalions (or equivalent) of the Active Forces, Reserve, National Guard and TDA units are eligible. The competition is limited to battalions only. Deployed Aviation Task Forces are also eligible to be submitted as a Task Force. Units may not be submitted as both a Task Force and a separate battalion. Separate units not part of a battalion (ie, Medical Evacuation Companies, Air Traffic Service Companies) may submit award nomination packets through their higher headquarters.

4. Timeline.

a. 31 July 06 – email message sent to all aviation units to inform them of the upcoming Parker Award board and requirements for competition.

b. 03 November 06 – Parker Award Nomination Packets due to Aviation Proponency.

c. November 06 – Primary date for board to convene

d. December 06 – Alternate date for board to convene

e. January 07 – Board results verified, approved and announced

5. Battalion Evaluation Packet Rules and Guidelines.

a. Basic Guidelines.

(1) Packets must be contained in a binder no larger than 2" (inches) wide.
(2) Pictures are encouraged; however, loose pictures, negatives, slides or computer disks are not allowed and will be removed before a packet goes before the board.

(3) Information for each mandatory subject area will not exceed two (2) pages in length.

(4) The margins will be set at one inch for all sides.

(5) The font should be Times New Roman, twelve (12) pitch.

(6) The packet consists of 3 sections:

Part I

a. TAB A – Table of Contents

b. TAB B – Category of Competition

c. TAB C – Endorsements (BN, BDE, GO, MACOM)

d. TAB D – Point of Contact Information

Part II – Areas of Evaluation (see VI c. below)
Part III – Additional Information

b. Endorsements.

- (1) The endorsement process is non-negotiable.
- (2) Each MACOM will select best aviation units within their commands.

Only these units will receive a MACOM-level letter of recommendation. The MACOM will then provide these packets to Parker Review Board at Fort Rucker, which must be done in time to meet the timeline requirements above.

- (3) Units competing for the Parker Award must have a MACOM level endorsement.
- (4) Endorsements should be no more than one page.

c. Part II – Mandatory Areas of Evaluation

- (1) TAB A – Mission Statement
- (2) TAB B – Commander's Intent
- (3) TAB C – Safety
- (4) TAB D – Leadership
- (5) TAB E – Training
- (6) TAB F – Maintenance

d. Enclosures.

(1) Part III of the packet, "Additional Information", is the proper place to put all other information that substantiates and demonstrates the unit's level of excellence.

(2) There is no limit to the amount of additional information, as long as it will fit in a 2" thick binder.

(3) News media clippings and photographs are encouraged; however, films, videotapes, computer media and any other audio/visual items will not be considered. They will be removed before a packet goes to the board.

6. Miscellaneous Information.

a. Classified Information – Packets containing classified information will not be accepted for consideration.

b. Once the USAAWC Commanding General approves the board results, winning units will be notified. Simultaneously, the Public Affairs Office will be notified.

7. Point of Contact Information.

- a. Aviation Proponency is the lead agent to coordinate this annual award board.
- b. Point of contact can be reached at (334) 255-9734 (DSN 558).
- c. The complete award message can be found at the Aviation Proponency

Knowledge Center.